

## State Indicators

# S-7 Eighth Grade Science Performance

## Description

This indicator represents the average score in science of each state's eighth grade public school students on the National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP). The NAEP science assessment is a congressionally authorized measure of student performance that is conducted by the National Center for Education Statistics. The assessment measures students' knowledge and skills in science and their ability to apply that knowledge in the content areas of physical, life, and earth and space sciences. The NAEP assessment in science was updated in 2009 to keep pace with key developments in science. Because they are based on a new framework, results from assessments beginning in 2009 cannot be compared with those from previous science assessments. Student performance is presented in terms of average scores on a scale from 0 to 300.

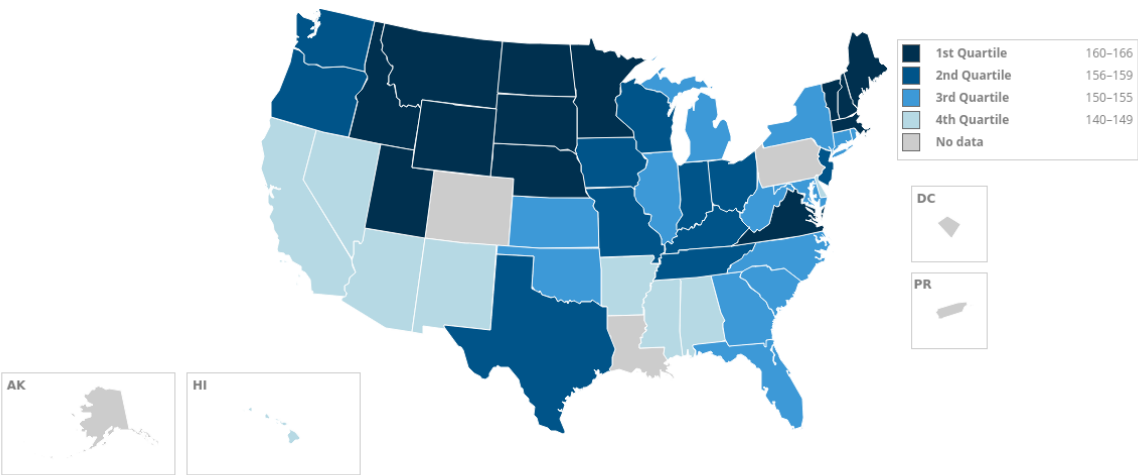
Not all students participate in NAEP assessments; a sample of schools and students is selected to represent each participating state. Hundreds of thousands of students from several thousand schools across the nation typically participate in the NAEP science assessment. The results from the assessed students are combined to provide accurate estimates of the overall performance of students in the nation and in individual states and other jurisdictions. NAEP allows students with disabilities or limited English language proficiency to use certain accommodations (e.g., extra testing time or individual rather than group administration). All data presented here represent scores from tests taken with accommodations offered.

Data source: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, National Assessment of Educational Progress.

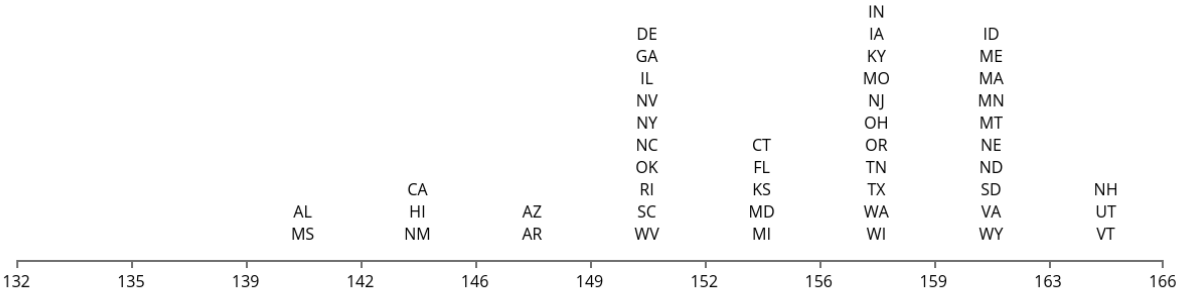
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2015



### Distribution of states across indicator values, 2015



Histograms do not display states with extreme values. Please consult the data tables for exact indicator values for each state. State positions on the histogram are based on unrounded values of the indicator and may not always match the rounded values displayed in the table.

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### Eighth Grade Science Performance

(Score out of 300)

State	2009	2011	2015
United States	149	151	153
Alabama	139	140	141
Alaska	NA	153	NA
Arizona	141	144	148
Arkansas	144	148	148
California	137	140	143
Colorado	156	161	NA
Connecticut	155	155	155
Delaware	148	150	149
District of Columbia	NA	112	NA
Florida	146	148	153
Georgia	147	151	152
Hawaii	139	142	144
Idaho	158	159	160
Illinois	148	147	150
Indiana	152	153	156
Iowa	156	157	159
Kansas	NA	156	155
Kentucky	156	157	157
Louisiana	139	143	NA
Maine	158	160	160
Maryland	148	152	155
Massachusetts	160	161	162

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State	2009	2011	2015
Michigan	153	157	155
Minnesota	159	161	162
Mississippi	132	137	140
Missouri	156	156	159
Montana	162	163	161
Nebraska	NA	157	160
Nevada	141	144	149
New Hampshire	160	162	165
New Jersey	155	155	156
New Mexico	143	145	143
New York	149	149	150
North Carolina	144	148	150
North Dakota	162	164	161
Ohio	158	158	157
Oklahoma	146	148	151
Oregon	154	155	156
Pennsylvania	154	151	NA
Rhode Island	146	149	151
South Carolina	143	149	151
South Dakota	161	162	160
Tennessee	148	150	156
Texas	150	153	156
Utah	158	161	166
Vermont	NA	163	163
Virginia	156	160	160
Washington	155	156	157

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State	2009	2011	2015
West Virginia	145	149	150
Wisconsin	157	159	159
Wyoming	158	160	160
Puerto Rico	NA	NA	NA

NA = not available

**Note(s):**  
The National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) scores are for public schools only. The national value for the United States is the reported value in the NAEP reports and does not include territories.

**Source(s):**  
National Center for Education Statistics, National Assessment of Educational Progress (various years), data as of January 2017.

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*Science and Engineering Indicators*